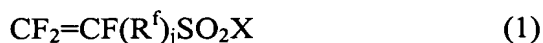


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A solid polymer electrolyte material made of a copolymer comprising a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer A which gives a polymer having an alicyclic structure in its main chain by radical polymerization, and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer B of the following formula (1):



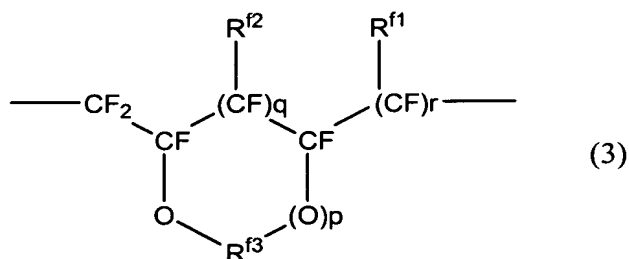
wherein j is 0 or 1, X is a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom or OM {wherein M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group)}, and  $\text{R}^f$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  polyfluoroalkylene group having a straight chain or branched structure which may contain ether oxygen atoms.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 1, wherein the fluoromonomer A is a perfluoromonomer, and the fluoromonomer B is represented by the following formula (2):

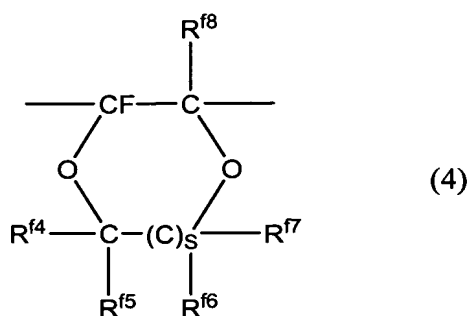


wherein k is an integer of from 0 to 2, m is an integer of from 1 to 12, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, ~~and X has the same meaning as X in the above formula (1)~~ where X is a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom or OM {wherein M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group)}.

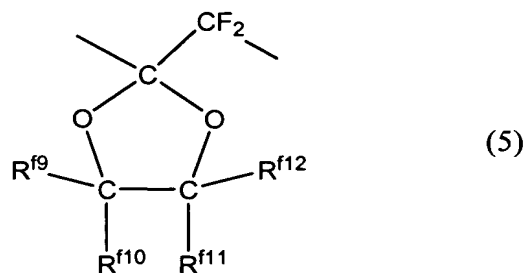
Claim 3 (Original): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 1, wherein the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer A is represented by any one of the following formulae (3) to (5):



wherein each of p, q and r which is independent of one another, is 0 or 1, each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}1}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}2}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom, a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group, and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}3}$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  perfluoroalkylene group which may contain a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group, as a substituent;



wherein s is 0 or 1, each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}4}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}5}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}6}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}7}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group (provided that  $\text{R}^{\text{f}4}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}5}$  may be connected to form a spiro ring when s is 0), and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}8}$  is a fluorine atom, a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group; and



wherein each of  $R^{f9}$ ,  $R^{f10}$ ,  $R^{f11}$  and  $R^{f12}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a  $C_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 3, wherein the fluoromonomer B is represented by the following formula (2):



wherein k is an integer of from 0 to 2, m is an integer of from 1 to 12, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and X has the same meaning as X in the above formula (1) wherein X is a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom or OM {wherein M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $NR^1R^2R^3R^4$  (wherein each of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group)}.

Claim 5 (Original): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 4, wherein the fluoromonomer A is at least one member selected from the group consisting of perfluoro(3-butenyl vinyl ether), perfluoro(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxole), perfluoro(1,3-dioxole), 2,2,4-trifluoro-5-trifluoromethoxy-1,3-dioxole and perfluoro(2-methylene-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolane), and the fluoromonomer B is represented by the following formula (6):



wherein  $k'$  is 0 or 1, X has the same meaning as X in the above formula (1), and Y has the same meaning as Y in the above formula (2).

Claim 6 (Original): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 5, wherein the fluoromonomer A is perfluoro(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxole), and in addition to the fluoromonomer A and fluoromonomer B, a repeating unit based on tetrafluoroethylene is contained.

Claim 7 (Original): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 1, which has an ion exchange capacity of from 0.5 to 2.5 meq/g dry resin.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 1, which is a solid polymer electrolyte material wherein the  $-\text{SO}_2\text{X}$  group in the formula (1) is a  $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group, ~~and which is useful as a material constituting a solid polymer fuel cell.~~

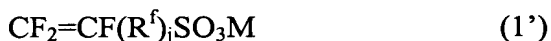
Claim 9 (Original): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 8, wherein the copolymer has a softening temperature of at least  $100^\circ\text{C}$ .

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 2, which is a solid polymer electrolyte material wherein the  $-\text{SO}_2\text{X}$  group in the formula (2) is a  $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group, ~~and which is useful as a material constituting a solid polymer fuel cell.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 3, which is a solid polymer electrolyte material wherein the  $-\text{SO}_2\text{X}$  group in the formula (1) is a  $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group, ~~and which is useful as a material constituting a solid polymer fuel cell.~~

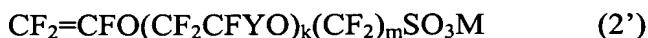
Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The solid polymer electrolyte material according to Claim 4, which is a solid polymer electrolyte material wherein the  $-\text{SO}_2\text{X}$  group in the formula (2) is a  $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group, ~~and which is useful as a material constituting a solid polymer fuel cell.~~

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): A liquid composition comprising an organic solvent having a hydroxyl group in its molecule, and a solid polymer electrolyte material made of a copolymer comprising a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer A which gives a polymer having an alicyclic structure in its main chain by radical polymerization, and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer B' of the following formula (1'):

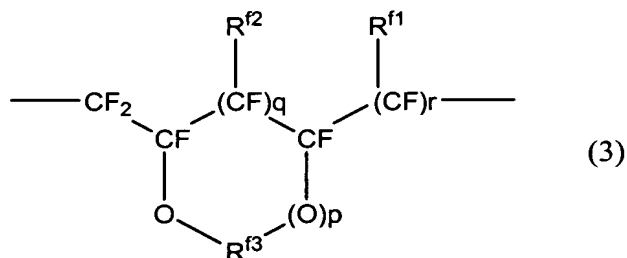


wherein  $j$  is 0 or 1,  $\text{M}$  is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group), and  $\text{R}^f$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  polyfluoroalkylene group having a straight chain or branched structure which may contain ether oxygen atoms dissolved or dispersed in the organic solvent.

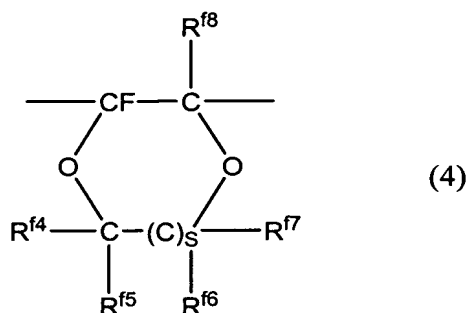
Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The liquid composition according to Claim 13, wherein the fluoromonomer B' is represented by the following formula (2'), and the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer A is represented by any one of the following formulae (3) to (5):



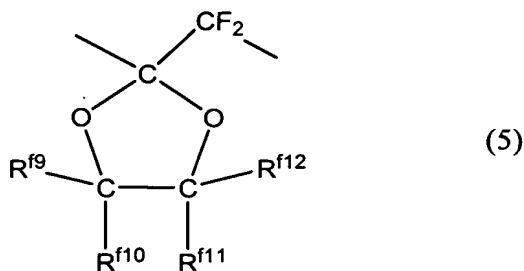
wherein  $k$  is an integer of from 0 to 2,  $m$  is an integer of from 1 to 12,  $\text{Y}$  is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and  $\text{M}$  has the same meaning as  $\text{M}$  in the above formula (1');



wherein each of  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  which is independent of one another, is 0 or 1, each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}1}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}2}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom, a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group, and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}3}$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  perfluoroalkylene group which may contain a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group, as a substituent;

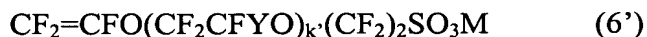


wherein  $s$  is 0 or 1, each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}4}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}5}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}6}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}7}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group (provided that  $\text{R}^{\text{f}4}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}5}$  may be connected to form a spiro ring when  $s$  is 0), and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}8}$  is a fluorine atom, a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkoxy group; and



wherein each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}9}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}10}$ ,  $\text{R}^{\text{f}11}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}12}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a  $\text{C}_{1-5}$  perfluoroalkyl group.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The liquid composition according to Claim 14, wherein the fluoromonomer A is at least one member selected from the group consisting of perfluoro(3-butenyl vinyl ether), perfluoro(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxole), perfluoro(1,3-dioxole), 2,2,4-trifluoro-5-trifluoromethoxy-1,3-dioxole and perfluoro(2-methylene-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolane), and the fluoromonomer B' is represented by the following formula (6'):



wherein  $k'$  is 0 or 1, M has the same meaning as M in the above formula (1'), and Y has the same meaning as Y in the above formula (2).

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A solid polymer fuel cell comprising an anode, a cathode and a polymer electrolyte membrane disposed between the anode and the cathode, wherein the cathode contains, as a constituting material, a solid polymer electrolyte material made of a copolymer comprising a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer A which gives a polymer having an alicyclic structure in its main chain by radical polymerization, and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer B' of the following formula (1''):

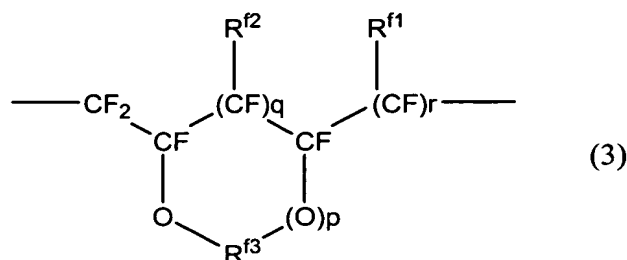


wherein  $j$  is 0 or 1, and  $\text{R}^f$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  polyfluoroalkylene group having a straight chain or branched structure which may contain ether oxygen atoms.

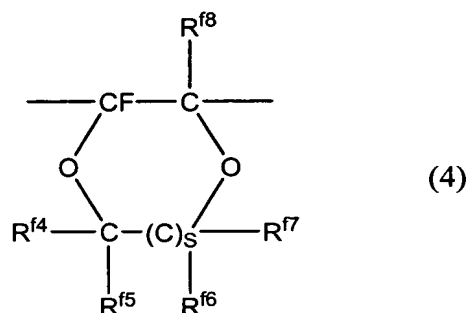
Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The solid polymer fuel cell according to Claim 16, wherein the fluoromonomer B' is represented by the following formula (2''), and the repeating unit based on the fluoropolymer A is represented by any one of the following formulae (3) to (5):



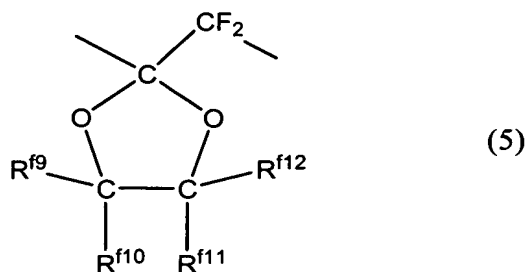
wherein  $k$  is an integer of from 0 to 2,  $m$  is an integer of from 1 to 12, and Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group;



wherein each of p, q and r which is independent of one another, is 0 or 1, each of R<sup>f1</sup> and R<sup>f2</sup> which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom, a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkyl group or a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkoxy group, and R<sup>f3</sup> is a C<sub>1-3</sub> perfluoroalkylene group which may contain a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkyl group or a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkoxy group, as a substituent;



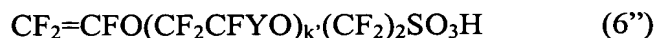
wherein s is 0 or 1, each of R<sup>f4</sup>, R<sup>f5</sup>, R<sup>f6</sup> and R<sup>f7</sup> which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkyl group (provided that R<sup>f4</sup> and R<sup>f5</sup> may be connected to form a spiro ring when s is 0), and R<sup>f8</sup> is a fluorine atom, a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkyl group or a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkoxy group; and



wherein each of R<sup>f9</sup>, R<sup>f10</sup>, R<sup>f11</sup> and R<sup>f12</sup> which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a C<sub>1-5</sub> perfluoroalkyl group.

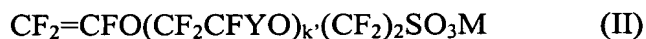
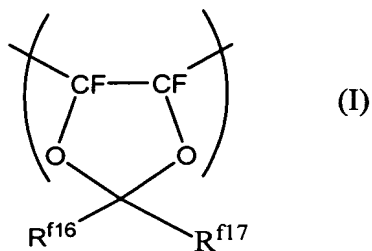


Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The solid polymer fuel cell according to Claim 17, wherein the fluoromonomer A is at least one member selected from the group consisting of perfluoro(3-butenyl vinyl ether), perfluoro(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxole), perfluoro(1,3-dioxole), 2,2,4-trifluoro-5-trifluoromethoxy-1,3-dioxole and perfluoro(2-methylene-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolane), and the fluoromonomer B' is represented by the following formula (6''):



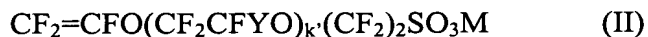
wherein  $k'$  is 0 or 1, and Y has the same meaning as Y in the above formula (2).

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): A fluoropolymer which is a copolymer consisting essentially of a repeating unit of the following formula (I) and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer D of the following formula (II), wherein the content of the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer D is from 10 to 75 mol%, and the number average molecular weight is from 5,000 to 5,000,000:



wherein each of  $R^{f16}$  and  $R^{f17}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group,  $k'$  is 0 or 1, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group).

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): A fluoropolymer which is a copolymer consisting essentially of a repeating unit based on perfluoro(3-butenyl vinyl ether) and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer D of the following formula (II), wherein the content of the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer D is from 10 to 75 mol%, and the number average molecular weight is from 5,000 to 5,000,000:



wherein  $k'$  is 0 or 1, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group).

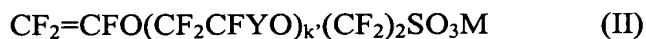
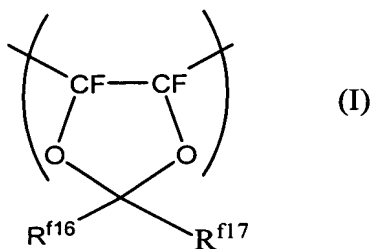
Claim 21 (Withdrawn): A fluoropolymer which is a copolymer consisting essentially of a repeating unit based on perfluoro(2-methylene-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolane) and a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer D of the following formula (II), wherein the content of the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer D is from 10 to 75 mol%, and the number average molecular weight is from 5,000 to 5,000,000:



wherein  $k'$  is 0 or 1, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group).

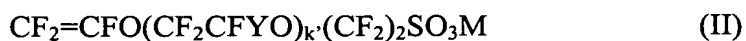
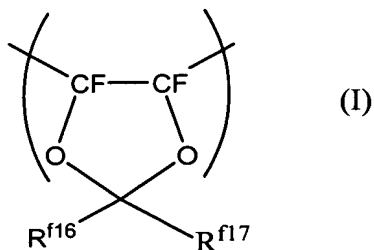
Claim 22 (Withdrawn): A fluoropolymer which is a copolymer consisting essentially of a repeating unit of the following formula (I), a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer D of the following formula (II), and a repeating unit based on tetrafluoroethylene, wherein the content of the repeating unit of the following formula (I) is from 20 to 60 mol%, the content

of the repeating unit based on tetrafluoroethylene is from 20 to 60 mol%, and the content of the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer D is from 10 to 40 mol%, and the number average molecular weight is from 5,000 to 5,000,000:



wherein each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f16}}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f17}}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group,  $k'$  is 0 or 1, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group).

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): A solid polymer electrolyte membrane which is a membrane made of a polymer electrolyte comprising a copolymer consisting essentially of a repeating unit of the following formula (I), a repeating unit based on a fluoromonomer D of the following formula (II), and a repeating unit based on tetrafluoroethylene, wherein the content of the repeating unit of the following formula (I) is from 20 to 60 mol%, the content of the repeating unit based on tetrafluoroethylene is from 20 to 60 mol%, and the content of the repeating unit based on the fluoromonomer D is from 10 to 40 mol%, and the number average molecular weight is from 5,000 to 5,000,000:



wherein each of  $\text{R}^{\text{f}16}$  and  $\text{R}^{\text{f}17}$  which may be the same or different, is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group,  $k'$  is 0 or 1, Y is a fluorine atom or a trifluoromethyl group, and M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom or a group of  $\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{R}^4$  (wherein each of  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a monovalent organic group).

Claim 24 (New): A solid polymer fuel cell comprising the solid polymer electrolyte material as claimed in Claim 8.

Claim 25 (New): A solid polymer fuel cell comprising the solid polymer electrolyte material as claimed in Claim 10.

Claim 26 (New): A solid polymer fuel cell comprising the solid polymer electrolyte material as claimed in Claim 11.

Claim 27 (New): A solid polymer fuel cell comprising the solid polymer electrolyte material as claimed in Claim 12.